Statement showing the number of appointments made in the Education Department and the number of Mahomedans among them.

Name of institution.	No. of appointments made.	No. of Mahomedans appointed.	Period to which the appointment relates.
Training College	5	...	...
English Branch	245	11	Last 10 years
Vernacular Branch	217	4	Last 12 years
Girls' Branch	1,206	6	Last 18 years
Reformatory School	45	2	Last 21 years

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member how the appointment of Mahomedan teachers in schools will help to popularise education among Mahomedans?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: I think it will be a source of encouragement to the Mahomedan community.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. In answer to part (*b*) it is stated that a statement is laid on the table. We are not able to ask any supplementary questions on that.

PRESIDENT: Yes, that point of order was raised in the other House also and I have promised them to consider the relevancy of that and give my ruling when the House meets next time. Two or three other points were also brought to my notice and I have promised to study them and give a ruling. This is one of the points.

Education Advisory Board.

50. *MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) who made the selection of the members of the Education Advisory Board;

(*b*) whether that Board has met, and, if so, how many times and the duration of each sitting; and

(*c*) whether they have received any recommendations from the Board, and, if so, whether they will place them on the table together with the minutes of the sittings of the same for the information of the Council?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: (*a*) The Government.

(*b*) Yes, once, for one day.

(*c*) The Board does not make recommendations direct to Government. A summary of its proceedings is laid on the table.

Minutes of the first meeting of the Advisory Education Board held in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction, Trivandrum, on Wednesday the 20th December 1933 at 11 a. m.

Present. R. M. Statham Esquire., M. A., I. E. S., C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction, Chairman (Ex-officio).

Miss Alexander	Member.
Mr. P. Balakrishnan Tampi, B. A., B. L.	do.
Rev. Bishop Chulaparamabil, D. D.	do.
Mr. M. Govindan, B. A., B. L.	do
Mr. T. T. Kesavan Sastri,	do.
Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla, M. A., B. D.	do.
Rev. A. H. Legg, M. A.	do.
Mr. K. Mahomed, B. A.	do.
Fr. Mattam, M. R. A. S., F. R. A. S. (London)	do.
Miss Meager,	do.
Mr Pakode Narayana, Pillai,	do.
Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai, B. A., B. L.	do.
Sry. T. Narayani Amma, B. A.	do.
Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai,	do.
Mr. U. Ramakrishna Kukillaya, B. A., L. T.	do.
Mr. K. Sankaran, B. A., B. L.	do.
Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, M. A. (Oxon) Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Secretary (Ex-Officio).	

Messrs Changanachery Parameswaran Pillai, K. Sivarama Panickar and A. Thanu Pillai regretted their inability to attend the meeting. Mr. C. M. Joseph was also absent.

The Director welcomed the members of the Board and expressed the hope that, with the co-operation of the Board, the Department would be able to do its best for the advancement of education in Travancore.

2. After some discussion, it was agreed that the proceedings of the Board be conducted, as informally as possible, and that specific rules for the conduct of business need not be framed, unless they are found to be necessary.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

3. The Chairman stated that the Board would advise the Department on matters placed before them by the Director. Other matters may also be brought up by the members with the permission of the Chairman.

4. The proposed reorganisation of the Inspectorate was then taken up for discussion. Mr. Kukillaya was of opinion that two Divisional Inspectors might not be sufficient. He suggested that there should be four Divisional Inspectors and no Assistant Divisional Inspectors.

Mr. Pakode Narayana Pillai asked why the Chief Inspectress should not be assigned the same functions and powers as the Divisional Inspectors.

Mr. Kuruvilla raised the question of subject inspection and desired that the importance of subject inspection should be borne in mind.

Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi was in favour of Mr. Kukillaya's suggestion of four Divisional Inspectors.

Sry. Narayani Amma expressed the view that Primary Education should be entirely in the hands of women and that Assistant Inspectresses should not be made to work under men.

Miss Alexander did not see any objection to the proposals for the reorganisation. She desired that the girls in boys' Middle Schools and High Schools should also be looked after by the Chief Inspectress and her Assistants.

Mr. K. Mahomed desired that the Mahomedan Inspector of Schools should work directly under the Director or the Deputy Director.

At the close of the discussion, the Board agreed to the general proposals for the reorganisation of the Inspectorate.

5. The next item on the agenda was the adoption of the system of Mixed Primary Schools.

Mr. Legg was of opinion that there could be no objection to mixed staffs. He pointed out that mixed staffs do now exist in aided schools.

His Lordship the Bishop of Kottayam and Fr. Mattam were of opinion that co-education in Class V of Primary Schools, and mixed staffs should not be made compulsory and that managements should be free to open separate divisions in Class V for girl pupils.

The Chairman assured them that there would be no compulsion in this matter. He explained, however, that girls should not be refused admission in boys' schools in future, unless there was another school available for girls in the same locality.

The Board agreed to the adoption of the system of Mixed Primary Schools.

6. The extension of the Primary course to five years was then discussed.

Mr. Kukillaya desired that the Primary course should be extended to seven years.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan.]

His Lordship the Bishop of Kottayam desired to know whether managements would get sufficient time for providing accommodation in their schools for the V class.

Mr. Kuruvilla feared that, if the preparatory class were abolished in English schools, as the result of the extension of the Primary course, the standard of English in English schools might be lowered.

Mr. Pakode Narayana Pillai asked whether fees would be charged in the V class. He was assured that no fees would be charged.

The Board finally agreed that the duration of the Primary Course should be not less than five years and that it might be raised to seven years.

7. The question of recognition of primary classes attached to English schools, includiug Kindergarten and Nursery Schools was then discussed. The Board accepted the recommendation contained in the Education Reforms Committee Report.

With regard to the rate of fees to be charged, Mr. Kukillaya desired that the Department should fix standard rates.

In discussing this recommendation, some members raised the question whether English should be a compulsory or an optional subject in Class V of Primary Schools.

Miss Meager was of opinion that English should be a compulsory subject.

Fr. Mattam desired that English should be only an optional subject.

The Secretary suggested that the question might be left open and that the Department would look into the matter further and put up a definite proposal.

Mr. Govindan was against compulsory English, as it would involve additional expenditure.

The Board was generally of opinion that English should not be compulsory in class V of Primary Schools.

8. The gradual closure of the Vernacular Middle Schools and the stoppage of the V. S. L. Examination.

Mr. Kukillaya objected to the closure of Vernacular Middle Schools and he was of opinion that the efficiency of the Vernacular Middle Schools, if unsatisfactory, should be improved.

Mr. Pakode Narayana Pillai was of opinion that this recommendation, if given effect to, would result in a setback to Vernacular education.

Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi stated that the objection to the closure of Vernacular Middle Schools was largely sentimental and that the recommendations of the Education Reforms Committee Report should be given effect to. If necessary, the name Vernacular Middle Schools may be retained instead of the proposed name of Vocational Bias Schools, but the new curricula proposed should be adopted.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Fr. Mattam agreed with the Report that the standard of Malayalam in Vernacular Middle Schools was very low.

Mr. Govindan feared that the diffusion of Vernacular Education would be affected by the closure of even some of the Vernacular Middle Schools. If the number of Vernacular Middle Schools is to be reduced to any large extent, there will be a grievance.

The Secretary pointed out that the problem of unemployment was most acute among V. S. L. C's and that reform of the Vernacular Middle School was absolutely necessary. He also pointed out that, as the Board agreed, the Primary course would, in course of time, and when funds permit, be extended to seven years. About nine lakhs are spent annually on Vernacular Middle Schools without any special benefit. Even a portion of this money can be more usefully spent for the development and cultivation of Malayalam Language and Literature by means of Honours Courses in Colleges, Fellowships and Studentships for Malayalam Studies, and by the establishment of a Malayalam Academy.

Mr. Sankaran desired that at least a few select Vernacular High Schools should be retained.

Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai summed up the arguments for and against. He was of opinion that there was a real danger that Vernacular Education might suffer as the result of these proposals. He, however, welcomed the idea of giving a vocational bias in the Vernacular Middle Schools as proposed in the Report.

The Chairman pointed out that a considerable number of Vernacular Middle Schools would have to be closed, in any case, on account of overlapping and superfluous provision.

The Board finally agreed to the gradual conversion of Vernacular Middle Schools into Vocational Bias Schools.

Mr. Pakode Narayana Pillai desired that a few select Vernacular High Schools should be retained.

As regards the future of the V. S. L. Examination, the Chairman suggested that this question might lie over for the present and that he would place concrete proposals before the Board at its next meeting. This was agreed to.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 1-30 P. M.

The afternoon session began at 2-30 P. M.

9. The main recommendations of the Education Reforms Committee Report regarding Collegiate Education were then considered. After a very brief discussion, the Board agreed to the reduction of the Women's College to the Second Grade and to the establishment of a residential system. As regards the amalgamation of the Arts and Science Colleges, several members were opposed to the proposals that there should be a separate Second Grade College. The Board was generally in favour of a complete amalgamation of the two Colleges, as

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan.]

a matter of principle and policy. Some members were, however, doubtful whether suitable accommodation would be available and whether our present financial conditions were favourable for the large reforms proposed. There was however, general agreement that the Department and the Government might go ahead with the consideration of the proposals for amalgamation.

With regard to the residential system, some members were opposed to rigid compulsion being enforced. The Board agreed, however, that a compulsory residential life is desirable as a matter of general principle, provided that adequate provision is made for exemptions for hard cases. With regard to the recommendation for the avoidance of duplication in the Colleges in Travancore by the elimination in Government Colleges of certain pass courses, which may be provided elsewhere, the Board was of opinion that the proposal was vague and indefinite. It was agreed that the question should lie over for the present and that the Board would consider any concrete proposals in this regard which may be placed before it.

10. The introduction of optional subjects in the E. S. L. C. Course and the introduction of special subjects for girls, High Schools. Mr. Kuruvilla complained of the overloading of the E. S. L. C. curriculum.

Miss Meager was of opinion that such vocational subjects as were proposed in the Report would be a welcome change and diversion to the pupils.

The Secretary pointed out that the E. S. L. C. Syllabuses Revision Committee had also recommended the introduction of vocational subjects in the E. S. L. C. Course.

The proposal was generally acceptable to the Board.

The introduction of Domestic Science in girls' High Schools to be compulsory up to the IV Form was unanimously agreed to.

Sry. Narayani Amma desired that more optional subjects suitable for girl pupils should be provided.

The Secretary suggested that girls studying in boys' High Schools should also be provided for.

11. The undertaking by Government of an industrial survey.

That Government should undertake an industrial survey immediately on the lines and with the objects suggested in the Education Reforms Committee Report was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Kuruvilla was of opinion that the various recommendations about Technical Education, contained in the Report, require co-ordination.

12. The abolition of the existing waiting lists.

The Board was unanimously of opinion that the existing waiting lists have created a good deal of trouble in the matter of recruitments and that they should not be an obstacle to fresh recruitment of well qualified men whose names may not be in the lists.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

13. The employment of married women in certain posts in the Department.

At the outset, the Chairman explained that the recommendation made in the Report will not be given a retrospective effect and that it would only affect fresh recruits to the Department. He also pointed out that the recommendation applied altogether to only seventy posts in the Women's College, in the girls' High School and in the Inspectorate. Most of the members spoke for or against on this question, and it was generally desired that a vote should be taken. As the result of the voting, ten voted for the recommendation in the Report, six against, and one was neutral.

14. The adjustment of school hours in Vernacular Schools.

The Board was in favour of the adjustment of school hour for Vernacular schools as recommended in the Report. It was suggested that the matter should be investigated for English schools also.

15. The appointment of Local Attendance Committees for Primary Schools.

His Lordship the Bishop of Kottayam stated that the value of such committees would vary from region to region.

The Chairman explained the functions of the proposed committees. The Board agreed to this recommendation.

16. The adoption of the Vernacular as the medium of instruction in English schools.

Some members desired that this should be made compulsory, while others were strongly of opinion that it should be optional.

The Secretary pointed out that the opinions of the Head mistresses of English High Schools had been received and that the general concensus of opinion among them was in favour of the optional use of the vernaculars and against compulsion.

The Board was of the opinion that it might be optional in the initial stages, but it should be made compulsory as soon as practicable.

17. The proposals in the Report regarding religious instruction.

Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai was opposed to religious instruction altogether within school hours.

Mr. Legg took a strong objection to the recommendations in the Report. He pointed out that there was no reason why there should be a departure from the existing practice. That the written consent of parents or guardians should be obtained before religious instruction is given to Hindu boys in Christian schools is quite unnecessary and inconvenient. He believed that all education ought to have a religious basis.

Miss Meager was also of the same opinion.

Mr. Kuruvilla also agreed and he desired that the Department should help aided schools in giving religious instruction to all their pupils. He pointed out that in his school he had tried to give religious instruction to Hindu boys in the Hindu faith, but his experiment was not successful.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan.]

Sry. Narayani Amma opposed religious instruction being given in schools.

Miss Alexander accepted the recommendations of the Report.

Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi also accepted the recommendations of the Report.

Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai was of opinion that no religious instruction should be given in schools.

Mr. Pakode Narayana Pillai was also against religious instruction in schools.

Mr. Kesavan Sastri was in favour of the Report.

Fr. Mattam was also in favour of the Report. He stated that there was no objection to provide religious instruction in their own faith to Hindu boys reading in Christian schools.

Mr. Kukillaya was opposed to religious instruction within school hours.

Mr. Govindan was opposed to all religious instruction in schools. He was, however, in favour of the recommendations in the Report, if religious instruction cannot be totally abolished.

Mr. Sankaran was also against all religious instruction in schools.

Mr. Mahomed said that religious instruction was necessary and it should be given within school hours. He supported the Report.

The Bishop of Kottayam was in favour of the Report. He also agreed that provision might be made for religious instruction for Hindu boys in Catholic schools.

The Board, as a whole, was of opinion that moral instruction and civics should be taught in schools.

18. Compulsory manual work in English schools.

The Board was unanimously in favour of this proposal.

19. The raising of standards for admission to Colleges.

After some discussion, it was agreed that academic standards required for admission to Colleges should be raised.

The whole agenda having been got through, the meeting was dissolved at 5-30 P. M.

(Sd) R. M. STATHAM,
(Chairman.)

(Sd) C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN,
Secretary.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member how many recommendations were considered by the Board on that particular day when it sat?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: The summary of the proceedings is laid on the table.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: My question was how many recommendations were considered by the Board on that particular day?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: About 7 or 8 major recommendations.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member how many subsidiary questions were considered on that day?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: About 6 or 7 subsidiary questions. But, I cannot be sure. It is only approximate.

Touring work of the Director of Public Instruction, the Deputy Director and the Chief Inspector of Vernacular Schools.

51. *MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount of travelling allowance that has been drawn by the Director of Public Instruction, Deputy Director of Public Instruction and the Chief Inspector of Vernacular Schools during the current year up to the end of Kumbhom;

(*b*) the centres, if any, visited by them either jointly or separately, and the purpose of each of such visits;

(*c*) the number of visits, if any, made by them to Kottayam during the year either jointly or separately; the dates of such visits and their purpose; and

(*d*) the number of schools visited by them jointly or separately; how many of them are situated in towns and within a range of three miles from the towns, and how many are in the interior?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN:

	Rs.	Chs.	C.
(*a*) Director of Public Instruction ...	466	0	10
Deputy Director	175	23	13
Inspector of Vernacular Schools ...	792	21	13

(*b*) It is not understood what the member means by "the centres, if any, visited".

(*c*) & (*d*) Detailed statements containing the information asked for, are laid on the table.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly